

faithfully executed the budget enacted by the Congress.

The Library of Congress is a unique and treasured institution. It is the greatest repository of knowledge in the history of the world, and for 196 years the Congress of the United States has supported and nurtured its development. Today the Library faces the challenge of providing new electronic services to all its constituent groups while maintaining its traditional services to the Congress and the Nation, all in a time of severe fiscal constraint.

John O. Hemperley was a unique and treasured individual. For the past 23 years, he supported and nurtured the Library of Congress in its relationship with the Committee on Appropriations. He will be sorely missed, not only by those who knew and loved him here in the Senate and in the Library, but by all those who may never have known him but who benefit daily from the enormous resources the Library provides. The challenges the Library faces will be more daunting without him.

Mr. President, I know I speak for Senator MACK, the chairman of our Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee, and for all other members of the Appropriations Committee, and our staff, in expressing our great sorrow and extending sincere condolences to John's wife, Bess Hemperley, their children, and grandchildren. And may John rest in peace with God.

CHANGE OF VOTE

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, on rollcall vote 50, I voted yea. My intention was to vote nay. I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to change my vote which in no way would change the outcome of the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I have mentioned many times that memorable evening in 1972 when the television networks reported that I had won the Senate race in North Carolina.

At first, I was stunned because I had never been confident that I would be the first Republican in history to be elected to the U.S. Senate by the people of North Carolina. When I got over that, I made a commitment to myself that I would never fail to see a young person, or a group of young people, who wanted to see me.

I have kept that commitment and it has proved enormously meaningful to me because I have been inspired by the estimated 60,000 young people with whom I have visited during the 23 years I have been in the Senate.

A large percentage of them have been concerned about the total Federal debt which recently exceeded \$5 trillion. Of course, Congress is responsible for creating this monstrous debt which coming generations will have to pay.

Mr. President, the young people and I almost always discuss the fact that

under the U.S. Constitution, no President can spend a dime of Federal money that has not first been authorized and appropriated by both the House and Senate of the United States.

That is why I began making these daily reports to the Senate on February 25, 1992. I decided that it was important that a daily record be made of the precise size of the Federal debt which, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, April 16, stood at \$5,142,250,889,027.95. This amounts to \$19,430.38 for every man, woman, and child in America on a per capita basis.

The increase in the national debt since my report yesterday—which identified the total Federal debt as of close of business on Monday, April 15, 1996—shows an increase of more than two billion dollars \$2,239,481,250.00, to be exact. That 1-day increase is enough to match the money needed by approximately 332,070 students to pay their college tuitions for 4 years.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

TERRORISM PREVENTION ACT— CONFERENCE REPORT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of the conference report accompanying S. 735, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A conference report to accompany S. 735, an act to prevent and punish acts of terrorism and for other purposes.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the conference report.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I move to recommit the conference report on the bill S. 735 to the committee of conference with instructions to the managers on the part of the Senate to disagree to the conference substitute recommended by the committee of conference and insist on striking the text of section 414 (relating to summary exclusion), section 422 (relating to modification of asylum procedures) and section 423 (relating to preclusion of judicial review) from the conference substitute.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There are 30 minutes on the motion, to be equally divided.

Who yields time?

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I yield myself 6 minutes.

Mr. President, I will ask for the yeas and nays on this at the appropriate time but, I understand that the distinguished chairman of the committee is on his way to the floor. I would not make such a request until he was on the floor.

I am not taking this action lightly. I understand there is a real concern on

motions to recommit, but this is a very, very serious matter.

I understand the symbolism of trying to have this conference report adopted by the House on the 1-year anniversary of the terrible bombing of the Federal building in Oklahoma City and, for that matter, the 3-year anniversary of the tragic end of the siege near Waco. It is one thing to say we want to schedule a resolution or sense of the Congress to coincide with a memorial day but here we are talking about a very significant piece of legislation. While I think that all of us abhor what happened in Oklahoma—certainly, no sane American could take any pleasure in what happened in the tragedy in Oklahoma City—we also have a responsibility as U.S. Senators, no matter which party we belong to, to pass the best law we can. After all, that is what the American people expect.

The vast majority of Americans are opposed to terrorism, terrorism of any sort, and they assume that their elected officials, both Republicans and Democrats, are going to pass good anti-terrorism legislation. If it takes a day or two more to get it right, then let us take the day or two more. We are doing this for a nation of 250 million Americans, a very powerful nation, threatened by terrorism.

The Senate passed S. 735 on June 6, 1995, almost a year ago. The House only considered its version last month. The conference committee apparently met a couple of evenings ago, and we were handed the conference report yesterday with instructions to pass it post haste. Having seen almost 10 months elapse since the Senate passed this bill, I hope we take time to at least to read the conference report. And, I dare suggest, there are not five Senators in here who have even read the conference report or have the foggiest notion of what it is they are voting on.

This is what we are talking about. We are talking about a bill being rushed through here about antiterrorism, because we are all against terrorists. But I am willing to bet my farm in Middlesex, VT, you are not going to find 5 to 10 Senators in this body who have read every word of this conference report.

In particular, my motion to recommit concerns profound changes to our asylum process that were not previously considered by the Senate in our deliberations on antiterrorism last year. The provisions I am objecting to have nothing to do with preventing terrorism. That is one reason why they were not in the antiterrorism bill that we considered and passed last summer. These provisions were added in the conference.

They do not have to do with terrorism. I am asking only to strike sections 414, 422, and 423. These are general immigration matters. They should be in the immigration bill. They should not be in this antiterrorism bill.

I tried to amend these provisions during the Judiciary Committee consideration of the immigration bill. I failed